

## REMARKS

We are in receipt of the Office Action dated October 6, 2003, and the above Amendment and following remarks are made in light thereof.

Claims 1-41 are pending in the application. Pursuant to the Office Action, Claims 1-5, 12, 13, 15, 17, 18, 26, 27 and 35-41 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Hartmann 4,976,515. Claims 7-9, 11, 14, 16, 20-22, 24, 25, 29-31, 33 and 34 stand rejected under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over Hartmann in view of Saishu et al 6,069,600. Claims 6, 19 and 28 stand rejected under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over Hartmann. Claims 10, 23 and 32 stand rejected under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over Hartmann in view of Verhulst 6,069,604.

The pending application has four independent claims, namely claims 1-3 and 12. Each of independent claims 1-3 requires the liquid crystal material to have a “chiral smectic C<sub>R</sub> phase.” Similarly, claim 15, which is dependent from claim 12, also requires the liquid crystal material to have a “chiral smectic C<sub>R</sub> phase.” The Examiner contends that Hartmann teaches such a phase, citing col. 3, lns. 20-25 of Hartmann. This portion of the specification of Hartmann states: “An additional advantage of the method according to the invention is that the ferro-electric liquid crystalline material need not have a threshold.” The Examiner also refers to item 2 of Fig. 1. Item 2 is simply described as a ferro-electric liquid crystal. Thus, applicant submits that Hartmann fails to teach a “chiral smectic C<sub>R</sub> phase.” Accordingly, Hartmann cannot anticipate any of claims 1-3 and 15, or the other claims dependent therefrom. Neither of the other references cited by the Examiner, namely Saishu et al and Verhulst, supplies this deficiency. Accordingly, applicant submits that each of these claims is patentable over the art of record.

In addition, claim 2 also requires “canceling out a spontaneous polarization of the liquid

crystal material and a first period.” (Hartmann) The Examiner cites Fig. 3a. With reference to col. 5, lns. 40-45, Fig. 3 illustrates that the signals presented to the data lines are preceded by an auxiliary signal so that the associated transmission levels are exclusively determined by the discrete value of each data signal and not the cumulative value of the signals. Accordingly, applicant believes that Hartmann teaches nothing about the canceling out of a spontaneous polarization of the liquid crystal material.

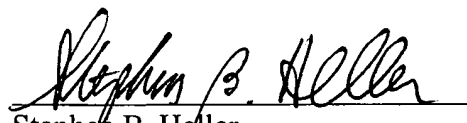
Applicant is amending claim 12 to correct a typographical error.

#### Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance, and an early office action in this regard is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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